



UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS
MEDICAL SCHOOL



POTE PILLARS

**EXCELLENCE FELLOWSHIP
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICINE
UP MS**



**POTE
PILLARS**



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Strategy of the Medical School of Pécs – POTEPILLARS

*“The future has many names: For the weak, it means the unattainable.
For the fearful, it means the unknown. For the courageous, it means opportunity.”
(Victor Hugo)*

POTEPILLARS is the strategic plan of the Medical School of Pécs, marking and supporting the development in the coming years. 2020 will be a special memory for everyone, and not only because of the pandemic. The Dean’s leadership has decided that in these difficult times our dedicated goal is not only the fulfilment of education, research and social activities, but determining new, modern directions, allowing for a completely new level of innovative thinking.

The strategic plan was created after the analysis, assessment and conceptualizing of multiple important areas. These concepts are fundamentally interconnected. The first part of **POTEPILLARS** strategy is the **LEARNING CULTURE CONCEPT**. Closely connected is the architecture and interior architecture **INFRASTRUCTURE CONCEPT** and the faculty **SCIENCE AND INNOVATION CONCEPT**. The fourth pillar is the **WELL-BEING CONCEPT**, dealing with the goals and tools of developing our social life.

These are the most important pillars of the future planning of the medical faculty, or **POTEPILLARS**; these are “The Pillars of Creation”. The strategy stemming from the concept will catalyse such shared thinking and innovative teaching-learning philosophy, scientific interpretation and human connections that will not only follow the changes of 21st century higher education, but take lead of the processes thereof.

We have the potential for these changes. The Dean’s leadership is committed to the contents of this document. Please consider this strategy as the synopsis of the developmental possibilities of the faculty based on shared and organised thoughts.

Dr. Miklós Nyitrai, dean
Pécs, October, 2020

POTE**PILLARS** - Motivation and foundation

We are convinced that we cannot only aim for survival even in such challenging times. Not even if sometimes this is all we do. We must go forward addressing problems and gaining strength and knowledge from them. When we created the **POTE**PILLARS**** strategy we dreamed of a medical school that fits our expectations and future view not only in content and appearance, but also in achievements and recognition.

The analysis of our current values and challenges took a central role in creating and conceptualising the pillars. The foundations of the strategic plans were determined by the needs of our 3500 students (of whom 60% are international) and the 1000 colleagues who work with them every day. The necessity of the new strategy and development processes was signalled by the continuous innovation of the faculty citizens.

Our courses use several new pedagogy-education methods, but they have not yet been turned into a network and have not been analysed in their success. Our scientific work is excellent and ever evolving when it comes to values based on traditional publications, but we still have a lot to do with incentivizing, managing and economic use of innovation. IT became clear during the meetings preceding the strategy that our international and convergent community wants to live in a better thought through, pithier and more liveable faculty environment; they want to feel good every day. The faculty is our second home; therefore these factors could not be left out of planning our future.

POTE**PILLARS** building blocks

POTEPILLARS**** was made for every student, educator and staff member of the faculty and contains our shared future view. We have grouped the important areas of faculty life into strategic pillars that are organically connected to each other and to our current values and traditions as well. However, **POTE**PILLARS**** is not a closed and final document; the development, expansion, refinement and most importantly, implementation will be our continuous task in the coming years.

There are three main goals showing the way in our course. Graduating students have to possess modern, useable knowledge and sufficient medical skills. It is also important that they should be able to recognise and get to know the new things in the world, and they should also be able to flexibly adapt to the changes in knowledge and technological environment. Those who graduate from us in the near future will probably still work in the field in forty or fifty years, therefore the importance of this is irrevocable. We are aiming to send intelligent youth into society who are able to make emphatic and ethical choices even in difficult circumstances or surprising challenges. To put it another way: they must have the high professional knowledge and human qualities that make a doctor the best of their profession.

The **LEARNING CULTURE** concept was created with the months-long work of eight faculty workgroups and shows that our current teaching culture has to be transformed into a modern and necessary learning culture both in our thinking and methodology. This pillar

requires commitment from both educators and students. We need a milieu where everyone (educator and student) understands their tasks and responsibility in the cooperative process as a partnership. This allowed the shared, creative thinking, understanding and solving of problems for all participants, respecting personal autonomy and development as well.

All of this can only be successfully implemented if the environment is inspiring and can also serve as a second home. We have to emphasize the internal architecture during development: the role of colour and shape, human connections and the functional and aesthetic design of social spaces. A creative mind can only flourish in a modern and liveable environment, and the process of acquiring knowledge and practical skills can only be successful in such environment as well. The Infrastructure concept, the second pillar of our strategy created with the involvement of freelance and university professionals, considers these viewpoints.

Good quality higher education can only be provided with good quality scientific background. Our faculty has outstanding academic achievements in multiple fields, but it is true that we still have tasks in other dimensions. The **SCIENCE AND INNOVATION** concept counts and arranges the research goals and achievements we find important in the 21st century and hold a direct value. Building on and further developing the practice of the past decades, including the opinions of market participants, this pillar underlines the importance of innovative processes and serves as a direction for future economic pursuits. Within this pillar, we deal with the relevant characteristics and importance of university rankings. The training of future professionals is emphasized and its most important current elements, as well as future support systems.

The most important element of the **POTE**PILLARS**** system is the committed, trained and satisfied faculty citizen, be that a student or staff member. If members of this community feel at home in the faculty infrastructure, are glad to work and do so happily, receive regular and targeted support, and develop through social and professional networks, then these goals will not remain dreams only. The physical attributes of our faculty are not optimal, especially when it comes to community spaces; therefore the renovation of these is part of the **INFRASTRUCTURE** pillar. However, creating these spaces physically is not enough; they have to be filled with content. The fourth pillar of **POTE**PILLARS****, the **WELL-BEING** concept deals with sporting and recreational opportunities, mental hygiene and support systems, catering services and the development possibilities of social-connective-cooperative spaces.

The new beginning

The **POTE**PILLARS**** strategy determines the future direction of developments at the medical faculty. The goal of the pillars is inspiration: urging educators, students and administrative workers to come up with new thoughts and actions. The pillars bring new paradigms; suggest methods and tools with alternatives, modern and realistic elements, exciting and new solutions. We share a responsibility for our future, therefore we would like to ask you to study the documents carefully and cooperate with your own knowledge and tools to the realization of these goals.

One might ask if now is the right time for planning the future developments and the associated financial costs. Our answer is a sure yes! On one hand, most of these changes depend on us, since they require a change in our thinking. But this is also the biggest challenge! On the other hand, during times of crises the biggest mistake is withdrawing funds from areas that will be the foundations of our future. Not only have to invest in our future, we have to do so on time!

We are confident that **POTE**PILLARS**** is marking amazing and incredibly important directions and focuses on the most important areas of our shared lives. Think about it: if we do not start today, we will not start tomorrow either, and the day after tomorrow will be too late. We need everyone: the knowledge of the experienced and the drive and courage of young educators, colleagues and students.

Be our partners, educators, students and staff! Let us use our strengths, build on our experiences and take the future of the faculty and our fate in our hands! Let us create a high quality learning environment, and social spaces and scientific workshops that were dreamed and created by us! And in the meantime, let us feel good in the present, because this is our home.

WHO ELSE COULD IMPLEMENT **POTE**PILLARS****, IF NOT US?

AND WHEN, IF NOT NOW?

Our School is a citadel of education, research, and health care. We are building a special School with special people. Teachers, healing professionals, students, administrative staff are our partners in this. We are doing this in order to meet our social mission, namely, to fulfil the high, internationally recognized standards of medical education and to provide research with innovative thinkers. The principles of “Learning, Healing & Development” guide us in the changing socio-economic conditions of the 21st century, building on the resources of our community, which is creativity, innovation, and commitment.

Mission statement, UP MS 2020

The Rose of Galaxy

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